GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:45
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2003
SHELTER FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE
SURESH KURUP

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who died in cities due to the severe winter conditions in 2003, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government have any plan to ensure the minimum requirement of a closed shelter for the homeless in urban areas during the peak winters; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI RADHAKIRISHNAN)

(a): This information is not being reported.

(b)&(c): With a view to ameliorating the hardships being faced by the urban footpath dwellers in metropolitan cities and other towns due to adverse weather conditions viz. rain and winter, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme named `Shelter & Sanitation Facilities for Footpath Dwellers in Urban Areas` is in operation since 1988-89. The Scheme was modified in August, 1992 to cover all urban centres wherever there is concentration of footpath dwellers o r homeless. The Scheme is demand driven scheme and being implemented by the State Governments or local municipal bodies or other State sponsored/recommended agencies including voluntary institutions. The Scheme has further been modified in October, 2002 with the following components:

i) Central Government would provide subsidy for construction of composite night shelters @ 50% of the cost of construction subject to the ceiling of Rs.20,000/- per bed for night shelter. Balance would be loan from HUDCO (optional)or any other organization/institution or own contribution of the agency. There will be no ceiling on the amount of loan, if sought by the agency.

ii) The State Governments/implementing agencies to provide land/site/existing building for renovation and undertake maintenance of the shelters fully. Land/site would be provided by the State Govts. or the urban local bodies/other implementing agencies. In case suitable land needs to be acquired, HUDCO would provide loans for land acquisition.